

The Pillar Page

P O M P E Y S P I L L A R N A T I O N A L M O N U M E N T

2011 A FANTASTICALLY CALAMITOUS YEAR!

2012

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 22nd

- ◆ Annual PPHA meeting

April 24th, 26th, 28th

- ◆ Volunteer Training Days

May 5th

- ◆ Visitor Center Opens for Season



Each year offers new adventures in the realm of public land management. However, 2011 was especially exciting with flooding, rock falls, severe weather events, and the swarms of pests. Through it all the seasonal staff and volunteers shined. Early in the season staff and volunteers from Pompeys Pillar National Monument, Billings Field Office, and the Montana State office initiated sand-bagging to protect facilities during flooding. Many folks put in long hours to protect our precious visitor center. At the helm of this heroic effort was Irv

Leach, acting Monument Manager.

In 2011 Pompeys Pillar National Monument was supported by over 40 volunteers whose combined service hours exceeded 3,700. Several projects were also completed

including the interpretive River Walk project and our tipi display case. Interpretation and environmental education programs were offered to over 500 youth from across Montana and northern Wyoming. A number of volunteer service projects were also initiated.

It is a testament to the dedication of the seasonal staff, volunteers, and historical association members that so much was done in such a wild year. On behalf of Jeff Kitchens, Monument manager, the BLM would like to thank all who supported the national monument in 2011.



Flooded picnic area— July 1st, 2011

Photo courtesy of BLM

POMPEYS PILLAR HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION—UPDATES & NEWS

POMPEYS PILLAR NATIONAL MONUMENT

BLM BILLINGS FIELD OFFICE
5001 SOUTHGATE DRIVE
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59101
(406) 875-2400



The mission of Pompeys Pillar Historical Association (PPHA) is to assist the Bureau of Land Management with historical, scientific and educational programs surrounding the Clark on the Yellowstone stretch of the

Lewis and Clark Expedition. PPHA offers opportunities for volunteers to help in the association's gift shop, which features items related to the expedition.

The PPHA Board of Directors meets monthly on the

second Thursday at noon. Please direct inquiries of board membership interest to PPHA President Susan Barrow at 248-6155.



Save the Date Clark Days 2012 is July 28th—29th

P O M P E Y S P I L L A R N A T I O N A L M O N U M E N T

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
GET THE WORD OUT

Volunteer Jeff Sherman with Group

Photo courtesy of John LeVar

The heart and soul of Pompeys Pillar National Monument (PPNM) is the energy and dedication of its volunteers. In 2011 PPNM was supported by over 40 volunteers whose combined service hours exceeded 3,700.

The effort of all of these amazing individuals supported the Pompeys Pillar Historical Association (PPHA) gift shop, made it possible for PPNM to offer a myriad of environmental education

and interpretation programs, helped in successful completion of various maintenance projects, and made it possible for events like Clark Days to be successful.

So much success and so much energy made 2011 a fantastic year. However, it was clear to all involved that as PPNM gains further recognition and visitation increases, more volunteers are needed.



2011 Volunteers and Seasonal Staff

Photo courtesy of John LeVar

PPNM has so much to offer individuals at all stages in life in regard to volunteer work. High school students looking for a valuable summer experience can participate in the teen shadow program. College and graduate school students can gain valuable internship credit through volunteer experience. Individuals looking to return to work force needing some recent professional experience can gain it working at the gift shop or on any number of projects. Those who completed their time in the work force and are now looking for something to do in their free time will find volunteer opportunities at the Pillar very rewarding.

Finally, groups of all sizes and backgrounds can help be a part of history helping with PPNM recreation and visitor use volunteer projects.



Clark Day Visitors looking at displays

Photo courtesy of Tim Mazzaferro

For more information on volunteering please contact Jeff Kitchens, Monument Manager at (406) 670-3159 or Jean Ekwortzel, Gift Shop Manager, at (406) 698-0866

M A N A G E R ' S C O R N E R

I wanted to take this first issue to say hi and introduce myself.

I moved here in June after spending the last five years in Denver, working for the BLM as their forestry, fire rehabilitation, and finally National Landscape Conservation System Lead. I love working for the BLM and am so excited to be at Pompeys Pillar Nation-

al Monument. It is a truly remarkable place.

As you have already read 2011 was a very exciting year. I am sure 2012 will be just as vibrant and fun. A lot of great changes are coming including a more permanent staff, developing a long-term strategy for the monument, and building partnerships with organizations

like Girl Scouts of America and the Conservation Lands Foundation.

If I have not met you yet, please stop on by this summer season to say hi and share your thoughts and ideas with me.

Thank you.
Jeff Kitchens,
Monument Manager.



Monument manager Jeff Kitchens speaking to volunteers and seasonal staff

Photo courtesy of John LeVar

